

BATCH OF SHORT STORIES

Brief Tales and Incidents Picked Up in the Byways of Indianapolis.

Chicken Fights on the Fly—Bound to Repay the Nickel—Small Boy's Disappointment—Offering Thanks.

There is a rather gay lot of firemen down at the little house located in the middle of the quiet Hebron neighborhood. The company is Tony O'Hara, who was knocked all to pieces in the Van Camp fire, but who is yet as full of good-natured mischief as a dog at a flea-bath. In the vernacular of the department, Tony has an ably able in the shape of Jim Madden, the recognized society man of the entire department, and who is substantially backed by Jack O'Hara.

There is one man in the department who looks on this trio with dark suspicion, and without doubt has he excellent cause. Assistant Chief Barrett is an ardent chicken fancier, and his poultry-yard next door to the house is fairly running over with the finest varieties of game chickens. In the rear lives a good old Irish gentleman whom the boys address as "Poppie." Ward and who also owns a number of rare old fighters. "Poppie" and the assistant chief have long been fast friends, but it is said there is great danger of an estrangement now, all on account of a series of early morning jokes by O'Hara, Madden and Barrett. One morning, Ward Barrett brought home a blooded game cock, which he carefully locked in the coop. That night, when the boys were tired, they decided to have a little fun. About 4 o'clock in the morning three dark-robed figures stole from the sleeping apartment and into the chicken house. A few minutes later a frightened cackle in Barrett's chicken lot, and about the same time a similar sound emanated from "Poppie" Ward's barn yard. There was a silence for a while, but presently the Hebron notion peddler crossed that street awakened by a series of sounds that led him to believe the tens were giving a banquet.

When Mr. Barrett walked out to his poultry yard two hours later he wondered if he was not standing on the scene of a recent blood battle, and the sight of the fifteen-dollar game chicken, battle-scarred, shorn of plumage and hopping about on one leg, assured him that he had not erred. The battle had been fierce, as "Poppie" Ward's favorite fighter could also bear witness. As breakfast time came, Barrett, who had begun to gather in the chief's breast were disclosed. He saw that the assistant chief spent the balance of the day administering medicine, but the next morning the boys enjoyed another and more surprising fight between the wounded gamecock and were unfortunately caught in the act. Barrett has since set up all night watching his chicken, and "Poppie" has been banished to the city.

The financial transactions of many women are conducted after a plan which the mind of the average man finds difficult of comprehension.

One woman has a pocket book which is as light as a feather, and is in the ratio to the amount involved. Five cents weighs as heavily upon their consciences as \$5, but when the obligation mounts into the hundreds, or goes entirely past their power of liquidation, the burden becomes light as summer air and they cast it aside, faintly, as if it were a small matter. However, their peculiarities are most noticeable. Men make merry over their ways at the soda fountain, in the fashion of half a century ago, and the counter upon the suggestion of one and taking a "Dutch treat," each paying for her own glass. "Dutch treat" is a term of honor, and "Dutch treat" is a term of honor, and "Dutch treat" is a term of honor.

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The first morning the flesh reducing operation was carried out at about 10 o'clock. The Cadi purchased a pair of twelve-pound Indian clubs and a pair of dumb-bells, and mapped out his plan of exercise. He suddenly took to early rising, and every morning before breakfast engaged in a club-swinging drill and exercise with the dumb-bells.

Mr. Will Garber, court stenographer, has a young son who arrived at about 10 o'clock when the angelic traits which once made the fond father's heart beat with joy over the amiable promise of his offspring seem rapidly disappearing to give place to a development of less admirable but very human attributes. Among other peculiarities the young man's extreme anxiety is the indisposition of the young man to engage in intellectual pursuits and his propensity for taking part in "scrapping" matches. Last Sunday afternoon, partly as a means of discipline and partly that he might be kept out of mischief, he was required, solely on account of his own misbehavior, to go to his room and read. He went to the bookcase reluctantly and slowly read "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. At last came an exclamation of pleasure: "Short Fight! Bully!" And he sank into a chair with an expression of beatific joy on his chubby face.

At the Easter, of one sort and another, are still about the city. Not a church is not a mile distant from the Journal office. It is a wealthy church, but whispers are afloat that all is not harmonious in its inner circles; that, in fact, the pastor is not beloved by his congregation to the degree which leads to a liberal disbursement of funds for his gratification. He is rather fond of lavish floral displays, and in the celebration of the Easter festival, he has been particularly so. Recently such decorations have not been used, and the pastor has been the subject of much criticism. The pastor has been the subject of much criticism. The pastor has been the subject of much criticism.

The subscription of Mr. J. C. Shaffer was sent by telegraph from San Francisco. The committee on buildings and grounds of the Commercial Club met at 4 o'clock this morning. The committee on buildings and grounds of the Commercial Club met at 4 o'clock this morning. The committee on buildings and grounds of the Commercial Club met at 4 o'clock this morning.

IT WAS HIGH-WATER MARK

Yesterday in Subscriptions to the Encampment, Reaching Nearly \$2,000.

Traveling Men Making a Successful Effort—Chairman Loeper's Committee at Work—Meeting to Consider Grounds Offered.

High-water mark was reached yesterday in the Commercial Club's work of raising subscriptions to the G. A. R. National Encampment fund. The total amount received at the office during the day was nearly \$2,000, making the largest amount in any one day since the beginning of the campaign. Among the members of the club who either subscribed or secured \$500 more were Messrs. Jacob Metzger, George E. Field, Albert E. Metzger, A. H. Snow, John Maurice Butler, Thomas E. Chandler, Clemens Vonnegut, Franklin Vonnegut, John H. Holliday, A. Burdell, Charles F. Sayles, Marion Ward and A. F. Koop. In addition to these good lists were reported by A. Stefflin, Dr. Allison Maxwell and L. P. E. B. The work is being vigorously pushed.

A meeting of traveling men was held in the Commercial Club rooms at 4 o'clock, and reports were submitted by a number to Chairman Ben L. Webb. Sixty subscribers were added to the fund being raised for the traveling men, and the total amount \$90. It was decided to continue the work vigorously, with the determination that the fund should be raised to \$1,000. The committee desired that a showing should be made by the traveling men, and while they are asking only \$1 each, they are asked to contribute \$1 each. The committee desired that a showing should be made by the traveling men, and while they are asking only \$1 each, they are asked to contribute \$1 each.

John W. Loeper, chairman of the committee, who has been working for the traveling men, also reported a number of subscriptions yesterday, showing that the work of his committee has been successful. Mr. Loeper's committee has been successful in securing a number of subscriptions, and the work is being pushed.

Following is a list of the subscribers: General subscriptions—Joseph C. Gardner, \$5; T. M. Basset, \$25; John M. Butler, \$50; J. C. Stefflin, \$50; A. H. Snow, \$50; George E. Field, \$50; John Maurice Butler, \$50; Thomas E. Chandler, \$50; Clemens Vonnegut, \$50; Franklin Vonnegut, \$50; John H. Holliday, \$50; A. Burdell, \$50; Charles F. Sayles, \$50; Marion Ward, \$50; A. F. Koop, \$50. In addition to these good lists were reported by A. Stefflin, Dr. Allison Maxwell and L. P. E. B. The work is being vigorously pushed.

A few weeks since the Cadi became impressed with the idea that he was carrying around with him a superfluous quantity of flesh, and concluded that he would feel a great deal better if he could get rid of a portion of it. He consulted a physician, and was told that his habits were too sedentary.

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Patrick Farrell, a young man enjoying the proud distinction of being the youngest man in the city, was arrested last night in a room over the George restaurant, at No. 109 East Washington street. The detectives were also looking for the thieves, and entered the room as the men were preparing to pack their coats, and seized the coats and the three valises and two umbrellas. The three valises are thought to be those stolen from the Union Station yesterday. One of them contained several small files and saws, and the others were filled with underclothing.

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PARTRIDGE'S WHIPSAWED

The Plunger Turns Bullish on July Wheat, but the Price Is Forced Down.

The Clique Attempted to Dispose of May Wheat, but There Were No Buyers, and the Price Sagged Off, Closing at 78 1/2c.

TRADING AT CHICAGO.

Provisions Weakened and Pork, Lard and Ribs Declined.

CHICAGO, April 15.—July wheat was dumped to-day. Millions of bushels were sold by the clique. The close was weak at inside prices, a decline of 30 compared with last night. It is reported that Partridge turned out on July wheat to engage in a wheat-baiting racket. Part of the gossip was that he knew the clique to be short of that month and was taking advantage of the situation to force prices up and give them a dose of the medicine administered to him. But the clique seems to have turned on him, and to-day it had nearly all the selling, and while the legitimate situation appeared quite as strong as yesterday, they were forced to dump the wheat from start to finish. The general opinion is that Partridge has been whipsawed. The clique found it impossible to dispose of any May. And no one else being inclined to sell it, it was comparatively neglected. It closed at a decline since yesterday of 40 per bushel. It is estimated that the viable supply will show a decrease of about 1,000,000 bushels.

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